

# **OLS AGM 2010**

May 27<sup>th</sup> 2010

64 Members signed as present

## **APPOLOGIES:**

Paul Willis, Dean Cobley, Leigh Fisher, Peter Higgs, Vic Smith snr, Grantley Jenkins

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

This evening I am signing off as Chairman after 2 very exhilarating years.

I put myself forward because I was concerned that the rugby club was in danger of losing its identity, I felt our position had been diluted by the inclusion of the Hockey Club and also because we had lost the financial asset of the bar.

Today, thanks to the hard work and commitment of many of you, I am proud to say that that our position both on and off the field is as strong as it has ever been.

Most of the objectives we set out to achieve have been fulfilled and some even surpassed, these improvements will hopefully appeal to new players and sponsors alike.

The cherry on the icing on the cake is our promotion to Midlands One; just desserts for Carl after his massive 2-year commitment and in no small part to Birchy whose involvement as Head Coach from last summer strengthened what was already an improving squad of players and coaches. It's the 2<sup>nd</sup> time Birchy has coached us into Midlands One consigning him forever more as a legend.

Unfortunately both Carl and Birchy are stepping down now leaving what would have been a daunting task for their successors but for the fact that for the last 2 years we have invested considerably in coaching and in equipment, I therefore hope that the new playing committee will get together very soon to promote a new head coach who will be given all the necessary support he needs to assist our next club captain.

We also need to support others who put themselves forward onto committees or who put in hours background work. Every little bit we do for each other shares the burden and makes life that much easier for our volunteers.

Personally it irritates me when I see the grounds littered with drinks bottles and rubbish and I watch people walk straight past it: -

- If you see someone littering tell them to pick it up and bin it,
- If you walk past a bin and notice it's full grab a mate and empty it into the large bin behind the gym.
- If you notice non-members up here creating a mess tell them to clear up after themselves or they're not welcome here.
- If you know someone who habitually refuses to pay membership or subs, have a go at them on our behalf.

The load needs to be shared, all members need to take responsibility for attracting players, sponsors and especially none payment of fees; it puzzles me that some people are happy to pitch up on a Saturday for a game, use the facilities and still begrudge paying £50 annual membership, £50 per year is a pittance for what we have to offer and quite simply they are taking the piss out of all of us.

I should update you on where we are with reference to the discussions about a new clubhouse.

As agreed at last years AGM a committee was formed with representatives from the LS&SC, Rugby Club and Hockey Club. After several meetings it was apparent that nothing could go forward without the authorisation of the Landlords, namely the O.L's Society and they were being negative about the whole subject. Because the debate about a new clubhouse was initially raised by the LS&SC as, in their opinion, the existing clubhouse is falling apart and too expensive to run, it was agreed at the LS&SC AGM that they should list all the problems they have with the existing

clubhouse and report back to the Landlords who should either manage the repairs or build a new clubhouse. I haven't heard anything since.

Finally I would like to once again thank everybody who was involved in making my term as Chairman so memorable and to let you know what a privilege it was to have served this magnificent rugby club as your Chairman, good luck and best wishes to the new committee.

## **200 CLUB DRAW**

The March, April and May draws were made, 133-Ed Wallis, 116-Arwel Jones, 221-Tom Costello. Each won £50.

A proposal of thanks was made to Peter Higgs for his time and support running the 200 club.

## **Playing Report**

### **Players Dinner**

Excellent turnout, superb speech by the Captain, good comedian etc

<b>Results</b>	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pos
1sts	22	17	0	5	645	257	2nd
2nds	18	13	3	2	513	169	3rd
3rds	16	8	0	8	331	349	N/A
Total					1489	775	+714 PD

### **Positives**

1st team promoted to Midlands 1 after tremendous nail biting play off versus Old Salts, great support

2nds in contention for Warks 1 all season, final of the Clonmel Cup

3rds kept going after a very difficult spell, when it looked like they might fold! Back in Warks League 3 next season

Nearly 276 tries scored between all teams, average of nearly 5 tries per game!

Ave age of 1<sup>st</sup> team is 25, a lot of good young players coming through, who featured in the Awards: Ollie Cowley, Ben O'Riordon, Richard Parker, Ben Wiles, Huw Sullivan, Matt Miller, Andrew Orbinson, Danny Murch etc

Great Easter Tour to Whitely Bay

Team effort from the Coaching Team, led by Stuart Birch.

### **Negatives**

Clonmel Cup defeat

### **Thankyou's**

3 x Captains : Carl, Reedo, Middy & Tim Chambers

Mick Roberts, Mick Warwick, Deano, Wooty, Arwel, Leigh Fisher

Chris Wade, Adam, Palmy, Birchy

John Harnett & James Neal and anybody I have forgotten

### **Head Coach for Next Year?**

**Players required for next year, all to share the responsibility**

## **TREASURERS REPORT**

Unsurprisingly it has been a much tougher year this year. The general economic situation was always going to cause us problems with reduced general income, plus we had a lot of income last year that was for new banners that covered a three year period. However, by keeping a tight grip on things (other than black tape) we have managed to keep the outgoings at similar levels to those of last year.

Page 1 shows the income and expenditure incurred over the period.

Major things of note.

1. (P 2) General Income .Bill Wallis has done a tremendous job again this year with advertising, sponsorship, programme sales etc. As the year has gone on, things have become tougher due to the economic climate, and will be even harder during this next season. This is exactly what I said last year! It is a credit to Bill that Advertising+sponsorship+programme sales were only £1000 down on last year, particularly as last year there were many 3 year deals on pitchside banners. Unsurprisingly donations were down by over £1000.
2. There was a dramatic drop off in shop sales. This was due to the fact that there was a massive boost in shop sales last year from new products such as scarves/replica shirts, fleeces, beanies etc. and there was no incoming American Tour this year.
3. The 200 club Income figure last year was unusually high as it had not been included previously, so this years figure will be more typical
4. (P2)Membership. This figure has stood up pretty well-VPs marginally up on last year for which we are very grateful. There does need to be some discussion about how best to get in player membership money which is a perennial problem and has suffered by nearly £700 this year-this as largely due to a reduced pool of players and a larger number of student players paying £25.
5. (P2) Match subs are down, largely due to the 3<sup>rd</sup> team having fewer fixtures at the beginning of the season-for some reason they are the best team at "paying up" when they do get games. Thanks to John Linnell for all his work on chasing/collating/banking match subs.
6. (P2) Social Events have again turned in a decent profit-many thanks to Tim Dougherty for his efforts in getting bands/selling tickets etc. He would have organised a couple of more events in the past few months but we thought that the Tour committee were putting on functions and we were trying not to cramp their fundraising-we were wrong.
7. (P3) Expenses. As I indicated earlier, overall expenses are largely as last year (£28,584 as against £27,386) with the biggest increase being in equipment-such things as tackle bags/new touchline flags/warm up suits/T shirts etc
8. ( P 4) The balance sheet basically shows that the assets of the rugby club have increased to £25, 428; up from £23,228 last year. This means there is a net income for the year of just £2,200, compared with £12,822 last year .

The next financial year is likely to be tougher again and there is not a lot of slack in the system, and, in my opinion, things will have to continue to be on a tight reign

Finally many thanks to Shirley and Cashmore & Co for their work in putting these accounts together.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS (AGM 2010)**

Chairman	Bill Wallis
Secretary	Alan Willis
Treasurer	Keith Baxter
Membership Treasurer	James Melvin
Chairman of Playing Committee	Colin Wiles
Fixture Secretary	Mick Roberts
Commercial Manager	Bill Wallis
Press and Publicity	Bill Wallis
Social Secretary	TBA
1 <sup>st</sup> XV Captain	Glenn Todd
2 <sup>nd</sup> XV Captain	James Melvin
3 <sup>rd</sup> XV Captain	Tim Chambers
1 <sup>st</sup> Team Manager	Mick Warwick
Rugby and District Reps	Terry Wootton and Ian Myers

TBA

The new chairmen, Bill Wallis, commented that on being asked to take over he both felt it a daunting task but also a relatively easy one thanks to Reiner's time at the helm. He thanked Mike Pawsey for his contribution as Treasurer. Bill went on to say that he was surprised that we only have 75 paid up playing members and stressed that we all should make sure that every player pays their way. He finished by saying that every player should try to get another player to play and if anyone knows a possible sponsor please pass his name on or do the selling yourself.

## **AOB**

**Stuart Birch:** New players joining club do not understand setup! Suggest formal letter outlining procedures, for e.g. crying off, fees to be paid, what club kit is supplied etc. Biographical details of the player would also be useful.

**Rich Hughes:** USA tour over weekend April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011 could clash with a Playoff or qtr final cup game. Also commitment from players required to sign up....cost £575. July Ball is a supporting event, a few places left.

**Vic Smith:** Requested clarification re sale of international tickets to non members. It was reiterated that the club does not sanction this! Ask non member(s) to become VP.

**Reiner Ferguson:** Club shop items will become available via the Web Ellis web site. Examples of stock were available to view. (Terminator shorts were given some stick!). A Minneapolis member, Chris Babiash, will also have a dedicated web site to take orders. Basics such as socks and shorts will still be available via the shop.

**Dan Volkman:** Outlined the Mini setup, started in September with 20 kids and now have 75.

Adam Dilley will be arriving from Metropolis in August, will require work!

**Peter Staines:** Has taken over the running of the Griffin club. A more variety of lunches will be on offer at the 12 home league games (N.B one league game will be for VP's lunch). More members are required.

**Carl Adams:** Raised several points....

We should charge an entrance fee for home games.

We should get a grant to upgrade flood lights.

The Driveway requires to be repaired.

Junior football is ruining our 3<sup>rd</sup> team Rugby pitch. (RF will speak to John Evans).

The Minis are starting to ruin surface of 1st XV pitch.

We will be travelling further in our new league so more coach travel will be required.

Will we set a date to appoint a Head Coach? S.B replied we should not go outside to recruit head coach, it should be an internal appointment.

Recruitment....are we encouraging players to actively recruit?

**Glenn Todd:** Do we have a player liaison role. i.e. to talk to players from the lower teams, tell them they are being looked at etc.

**Adie Cleaver:** Are we going to open Club to show world cup football matches? P.J will ascertain!

MEETING CLOSED AT 21.46